



Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

**Members Present**

Bill Myhr, Dana Vela, DeAnn Davies, Gary Loutzenheiser, Gretchen Jacobs, Patricia VanMaanen, Prabodh Hemmady, Stuart Turgel, Wendy Lyons

**Absent**

Diane Fausel  
John Foreman

**Guests**

Michelle Katona, Assistant Director of First Things First Regional Partnership Councils  
One member from the public

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the First Things First Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on September 23, 2008 at St. Patrick Catholic Community – Administrative Center, 10815 N. 84<sup>th</sup> St., Scottsdale, AZ 85260.

DeAnn Davies, Council Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 4.06 a.m. Council Vice-Chair Davies informed the Council that they will be returning to the official Council meeting format where public comments will be through the call to the public venue and that community input will no longer be held throughout the meetings as in the previous strategic planning meetings. The public is invited to forward any information to Coordinator Chandler who will then share the information with the Council. Council Vice-Chair Davies informed the public that if they wished to present to the council they would need to submit a call to the public request form.

Coordinator Chandler shared a message from Council Chair Fausel explaining the reason for her absence.

**Consent Agenda**

There were two items on the Consent Agenda, the Minutes of the September 4 and September 9, 2008 meetings. A motion was made by Member VanMaanen to adopt the Consent Agenda, seconded by Member Loutzenheiser. Motion approved.

**Needs and Assets Report**

Coordinator Chandler shared the updated Needs and Assets Report which has been revised with input of several Council Members. She stated that she would expand the Executive Summary that would accompany the report. Scottsdale Healthcare Data will be incorporated into the report if the information is received before the final report has to be submitted. A motion was made by Member Lyons to accept the Needs and Assets Report with minor corrections and with the possible addition of the Scottsdale healthcare Data. The motion was seconded by Member Myhr. Motion approved.

Coordinator Chandler informed the Council that the Needs and Assets Report should be considered a live document and that avenues for collecting data on an on-going basis should be considered. One such avenue is community forums. Arizona State University's Consortium is another avenue to consider as well as identifying whom else we have agreements with and the ability to gather data from them.

Ms. Katona stated that there will be data available yearly for Council Members to consider, not just when the Needs and Assets Report becomes due.

Coordinator Chandler will track revisions to the report and forward them to the Council.

### **Developing a System of Early Care**

Ms. Katona shared her expertise on building a system stating that it starts exactly where the family is, not just about being a funding mechanism, and that whatever door the family entered (i.e. health arena, early care and education, etc.) is where the system should be built. Some of the issues Ms. Katona found were gaps in communicating services and support where issues were not identified until the family fell through the cracks. She stressed having connections made in order to complete the circle of care, i.e. health is communicating to early care and education, who are communicating to family support, etc. These organizations are not just making referrals but coordinate to insure that linkages are made. A mechanism looked at was a strategy for utilizing the home visiting that could lead to early interventions for early care, education, development, healthcare, insurances, and a dialogue with organizations. Coordination is the key to communicating with parents and caregivers regarding services and support that is available.

### **Strategic Planning Process**

Coordinator Chandler went over the goals chosen from the September 9 Council meeting and stated that after reading the Needs and Assets Report, Service Coordination appeared to be an issue because there does not appear central coordination or entry point to receive services in the region. Further refinement and prioritization of strategies was made.

### **Conclusion:**

- Coordinator Chandler will formalize the strategies that were chosen and forward them to Council Members.
- Coordinator Chandler will also look at possible additional strategies that should be included in the plan either as potential for future funding or unfunded strategies for the Council to consider.

### **Regional Coordinator's Update Report**

N/A

### **Council Member Updates**

- Dr. Hemmady – Shared information on a 5-year, \$50,000 grant from Maternal Childhood Bureau's Access to Care that would fit in with FTF goals. Some discussion occurred on the grant, but determined that the time was too short to pursue at this time.

### **Call to the Public**

None

### **Next Meeting**

October 16, 2008.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Council Vice-Chair Davies adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

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Sharon Layton AA III

Approved:

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DeAnn Davies, Regional Council Vice Chair